RG104 Entry 235

Volume 522

January-February 1926

Letters Sent to

San Francisco Mint

Press copies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

Text quality ranges from good to extremely faint. Tight binding also limits visability of the left side of some documents. Pages were scanned using a white back-up sheet to improve legibility.

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RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Records of the Bureau of the Mint
Correspondence

LETTERS SENT, 1873-1917

Vol. 522 of 600

NC-152, Entry 235

by. 1926.

int,

NCISCO,

CALIFORNIA.

RG104 E-235 Vol 522

Jany. & Feby. 1926.

United States Mint,

SAN FRANCISCO,

CALIFORNIA.

January 2, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Requisition has been approved for advance to you the following to meet the expenses of your institution during the fiscal year 1926.

Salaries and Wages, Mint at San Francisco, 1926,
$21,000.00
Contingent Expenses, Mint at San Francisco, 1926,
4,500.00

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

P.

January 4, 1926

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
San Francisco, California.

		1925			
Amer. Railway Express	Philadelphia	11/20	San Francisco	1 box dies	$4.65
"	"	11/19	"	1 box Dime dies	2.56

OK

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January 4, 1926.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

The following bills covering transportation charges on items listed herein have been passed to the General Accounting Office for settlement, payable from your 1926 maintenance appropriation:

		1925				
Amer. Railway Express	Philadelphia	D/6	San Francisco	1 box centavo dies		$1.46
"	"	11/11	"	1 box 1¢ dies		4.29

Respectfully,

Superintendent of the Mint.

6

9

OK

NIGHT MESSAGE

January 5, 1926.

Superintendent Mint
San Francisco, Cal.

Please discontinue coinage subsidiary silver and resume coinage silver dollars soon as practicable.

GRANT
Director.

Cont. Ex. Mint Bureau 1926.

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January 5, 1926.

San Francisco, California.

Isthmian Steamship Line	Baltimore	1925 11/14	San Francisco	3 boxes	paper	$3.98

Jan. 7, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Authorized accept bid Morse Chain Company Morse chain with sprockets one hundred three dollars eighty cents.

Grant
Director.

Contingent Expenses, Office Director of the Mint, 1926.

Jan. 7, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of Dec. 15th recommending the furlough of Messrs. Barry, Brownrigg, Campbell and Miller, the recommendation has already been approved, but I have to request that you will forward to the Bureau immediately the furlough rating of each of these men.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant,
Director of the Mint.

Jan. 11, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of 6.40 ounces certificate bar samples representing fine gold mass melts numbers 73, 78, 88 and 93, forwarded with your letter of Jan. 5, 1926.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

CR.

Jan. 12, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of 8.00 ounces certificate bar samples representing mint fine gold melts Nos. 61, 66, 71, 76 and 81, forwarded with your letter of Jan. 6, 1926.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

2

January 13, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of January 6th relative to your accounts for the month of November.

Concerning certain vouchers for the service of removing garbage and refuse, it is suggested that the question of competition be disposed of on vouchers form under Item "g" without making reference to one of the reasons represented by the small letters at foot of voucher form, but by writing, on the blank lines provided, the following: "Municipal ordinance provides that refuse may be removed only by licensed collectors who have agreed to definite stipulations; no competition possible". This is the information contained in your letter and the copy of the ordinance. It is noted that the charge for refuse removal, of $12.50 monthly, is the maximum charge prescribed by Ordinance 5398, as the monthly rate for full collection from an apartment house having 77 rooms. This seems to be an unwarrantedly high charge for the mint -- possibly a better rate could be secured by taking the matter up with the Board of Health. While the ordinance in question apparently does not apply to municipal plants, such as the mint, presumably obtaining the service of refuse removal from others than the licensed collectors provided for by the ordinance would be impractical.

The employers insurance policies, with accompanying copies of form 1545, pertaining to deposits #2421 and #2576 are being filed with their corresponding deposit certificates. It is noted in this connection that the depositors requested payment be made in cash, but without specifying that delivery be insured. It is considered wise to bring to your attention the probability that, if a payee who has been charged for insurance without his authority having been given should call upon you for refund of the insurance premium, you would be liable therefor unless you could show conclusively that such was the usual method for making remittances of the kind in question.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

January 12, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of January 6th relative to your accounts for the month of November.

Concerning future vouchers for the service of removing garbage and "refuse", it is suggested that the question of competition be disposed of on reverse of voucher form under item "g" without making reference to one of the reasons represented by the small letters at foot of voucher form, but by writing, on the blank lines provided, the following: "Municipal ordinance prescribes that refuse may be removed only by licensed collectors who are assigned to distributive districts; no competition possible". This is the understanding received from your letter and the copy of the ordinance. It is noted that the charge for refuse removal, at $12.50 monthly, is the equivalent of maximum charge prescribed, by Ordinance 5838, as the monthly rate for daily collection from an apartment house having 777 rooms; this seems to be an unwarrantedly high charge for the Mint -- possibly a better rate could be secured by taking the matter up with the Board of Health. While the ordinance in question apparently does not apply to business places, such as the Mint, presumably obtaining the service of refuse removal from others than the licensed collectors provided for by the ordinance would be impracticable.

The duplicate insurance policies, with accompanying copies of form #104B, pertaining to deposits #2421 and #2576 are being filled with their corresponding deposit certificates. It is noted in this connection that the depositors requested payment be made in cash, but without specifying that delivery be insured. It is considered wise to bring to your attention the probability that, if a payee who has been charged for insurance without his authority having been given should call upon you for refund of the insurance premium, you would be liable therefor unless you could show conclusively that such was the usual method for making remittances of the kind in question.

Respectfully,

M. W. O'Neill

Director of the Mint.

F:f

January 12, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Please be advised that the proceeds of platinum sold by the New York Assay Office for you, $30,092.48, have been deposited in the Treasury by C/D #149 , dated January 5, 1926, to your personal credit. The amount in question should be taken into your regular January account current as a collection, also as a deposit, since it is a revenue pertaining to your office. The amount in question will not appear in the account current of the New York Assay Office.

Respectfully,

W. H. Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

W:f

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Jan. 15, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of Jan. 9th, you are authorized to purchase a #11 Remington typewriter. The Chief Clerk of the Treasury Department will furnish an Underwood typewriter #5-196319 at an exchange allowance of $10.00 to be applied to the purchase of this #11 Remington. The Storekeeper of the Treasury Department has been instructed to release this machine to the Washington office of the Remington Typewriter Company upon notification from your local Remington Agent to the Washington office of the Remington Typewriter Company that the new machine has been delivered to you.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 20, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Herewith find voucher rendered by Marsh & McLennan, in amount $0.29, for registered mail insurance charges on minor coin shipped during December. The rate of 4 7/8¢ per $1,000 is correct, but verification of amounts shipped, and computation should be made prior to payment of the voucher from the profits on minor coinage.

Respectfully,

M M O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

Fr
Inc:

Jan. 22, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

I am inclosing copies of letters received from the State Department relative to the coinage of 400,000 nickel one-centavo pieces for the Salvador Government.

This letter will be authority for you to proceed with the manufacture of this coinage at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

M. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

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January 26, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Attention is invited to the following items pertaining to your accounts for the month of December. Deposit Certificate #2753 in favor of J. R. Frank carries indication of cash payment of $1,524.30. There is an accompanying receipt for $3.80 cash paid, but no postal or express receipt for the funds transmitted. Please forward such receipt.

Public voucher #182 is in favor of Lazare-Klein Company and includes an item of 314 yards of El Dorado sheeting at 21 1/2¢ per yard. An accompanying proposal of Walton N. Moore Dry Goods Company (herewith inclosed) seems to carry a lower price of 21 1/4¢ per yard, an apparent overcharge of 78¢. Kindly return the inclosure with such explanation as is pertinent.

If you retained a copy of the schedule of deposits of November paid during December it is suggested that it be amended as regards deposit #2722 in both the first and last columns to read $7,404.45, instead of $17,404.45. Copy in this office has been so amended.

With reference to the briefing on reverse of bullion account current under the heading "Inclosures" please be advised that Form #125 "Report of Assay Coins Reserved" does not go to the General Accounting Office, but is retained for use in this office and should not be placed on the brief.

Duplicate pay-roll for the first half of December apparently was not forwarded with other vouchers.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

F.f
Inc:

10

Jan. 27, 1926.

Superintendent
United States Mint
San Francisco California

To meet requirements of Secretary prepare immediately to coin double eagles in connection with silver dollars for the present favoring gold.

O'Reilly
Acting Director

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

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January 27, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

With reference to your letter of January 20th stating you would like a new general ledger, will you please advise the Bureau how long the book now in use can be made to last. Unless additional space is necessary it is preferred that the making of a new book be postponed until the general forms revision, begun some time ago, can be completed.

From three to six months should be allowed for manufacture of a new book, and if the ledger is needed at the present time please forward sample draft of what is desired, giving preferred size, etc. It is presumed that the ledger in question is form # 643.

Respectfully,

W. M. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

January 27, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The Bureau is in receipt of your letter of the 21st instant concerning disallowances by the General Accounting Office, in your accounts for April-June 1925, and contemplates requesting review of the matter by the Comptroller General.

In your letter of December 4, 1925, concerning the items, which were at that time suspended, it is noted that as regards voucher #18, matches- $10.50; #42, coal- $35.50; and #68, paint brushes- $3.78; the statement was made that in future no particular brands would be asked for in making such purchases. In view of this virtual admission that particular brands specified were not essential in the proper conduct of the business of the institution, we are not in position to ask the Comptroller General to make allowance for the full amounts of these vouchers. It is therefore suggested that you now invite bids from three dealers for each of these commodities, in the same quantities, without specifying any particular brand, but indicating in the specifications the quality required. It is also requested that information be obtained, if possible, which will indicate any difference in price due to the lapse of time; the idea being to determine as nearly as possible what the articles in question would have cost if originally purchased without specification of a particular brand. Please forward the bids received and other information to this office for submission to the Comptroller General, to support request that allowance be made of the equivalent, if less than the amounts orlginally paid, of what similar materials would have cost if particular brands had not been specified.

Respectfully,

W. M. Reil,

Acting Director of the Mint.

P.S. Sufficient information appears to be present to support our request for review of the other items; however, if you know of any additional helpful information please forward it.

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Jan. 28, 1926.

Superintendent United States Mint
San Francisco California

Please hasten return personnel cards sent last week.

O'Reilly
Acting Director

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

Jan. 29, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Please be advised that the proceeds of platinum sold by the New York Assay office for you, $28,052.23, have been deposited in the Treasury by C/D #152, dated January 20, 1926, to your personal credit. The amount in question should be taken into your regular January account current as a collection, also as a deposit, since it is a revenue pertaining to your office. The amount in question will not appear in the account current of the New York Assay Office.

Respectfully,

Wm. M. Rolfe

Acting Director of the Mint.

P

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February 1, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Requisition has been approved for advance to you the following to meet the expenses of your institution during the fiscal year 1926.

Salaries and Wages, Mint at San Francisco 1926, . .	$ 21,000.00
Contingent Expenses, Mint at San Francisco, 1926 . .	4,500.00
	25,500.00

Respectfully,

W. M. R[illegible]

Acting Director of the Mint.

P.

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Feb. 1, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

This Office is in receipt of your letter of Jan. 25th inclosing a report of Mr. H. D. Hawkins, Superintendent of the Melting and Refining Department, on the results obtained from experiments with vitrified crucibles. Your letter, together with the report, will be held for the attention of the Director upon his return from Denver in a few days.

Respectfully,

M. McRiely

Acting Director of the Mint.

17

Feb. 2, 1926.

Superintendent
United States Mint
San Francisco California

Authorized accept one lot Dixon crucibles as lowest bid.

O'Reilly
Acting Director.

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

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February 4, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Herewith find letter of the Post Office Department dated February 3rd, together with bill of that Department against the San Francisco Mint for drayage on December 23, 1925, of 3 cases of stationery, $1.41. If the service was rendered as stated please make payment as per directions contained in the letter of the Post Office Department; both the letter and bill should be filed with your accounts to support the expenditure, and since the amount is to be paid to another Government department a copy of the bill should accompany the original.

Respectfully,

W. W. Stockbridge

Acting Director of the Mint.

F:f
Inc:

Feb. 5, 1926.

Superintendent
United States Mint
San Francisco California

Purchase ten tons copper American Smelting Refining Company fourteen five eighth cents authorized.

O'Reilly
Acting Director

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

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Feb. 6, 1926.

Superintendent, United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Complying with your recommendation of Feb. 2nd, you are authorized to purchase from the publishers of the Crocker-Langley San Francisco Directory a city directory of San Francisco for the year 1926 at a cost of $15.00. Please note on your voucher that this directory is used daily in the conduct of the business affairs of the Mint.

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

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Feb. 9, 1926.

Assayer in Charge, U. S. Assay Office, Seattle, Wash.
Assayer in Charge, U. S. Mint, New Orleans, La.
Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Denver, Colo.
Superintendent, U. S. Mint, San Francisco, Calif.

Wire tomorrow number employees on rolls June thirtieth twenty-five retireable at sixty-five and at seventy separately and number not subject to retirement.

O'Reilly
Acting Director.

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

23

Feb. 12, 1926.

Superintendent
United States Mint
San Francisco California.

Assay Commission reports all coins reserved by your Mint satisfactory.

Grant
Director.

Contingent Expenses Office Director of Mint 1926.

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February 12, 1926.

Hon. M. J. Kelly, Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

My dear Mr. Kelly:

In reply to your letter of Jan. 25th in regard to the purchase of fifty crucibles from the Dixon Crucible Company, there is no way of buying fifty crucibles from the Dixon Crucible Company without asking for competitive bids, and if you do not take the lowest bid you will have to explain on your voucher why the lowest bid was not accepted.

We have had several tests made of the Dixon, the Vesuvius and the Lava, crucibles which seem to be the three best crucibles in the market at the present time. In New York, where they used mostly Dixon crucibles last year, Mr. Wager informs me that the Dixon crucible fell down and they ordered Vesuvius. They will also use some Lava. In Philadelphia they are using all three on different work. After making some exhaustive tests in the last three months the Denver Mint has ordered the Dixon crucible.

I would suggest that you ask all three Companies mentioned to furnish you with two samples of the size you want and also to furnish you a price. After making tests order the crucible that gives the best result for the money asked. If you do not accept the lowest bid you will have to be very careful to explain on your voucher just why this was done, and give the results showing that the higher priced crucible was better.

The Comptroller's Office is getting more technical every day on the way these vouchers are rendered and the way these goods are bought, and you will have to be very careful how and what you order and how the vouchers are prepared, or you are liable to have some of these bills turned back on you.

Respectfully,

F. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

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February 15, 1926.

Superintendent, Bureau Public Buildings,
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

Upon my recent visit to New Orleans I found a large size balance which could be spared by the Mint at New Orleans for your distribution, and I am today requesting the Assayer in Charge of New Orleans to ship the balance to you on Government bill of lading, the shipping charges to be billed against your "Contingent Appropriation, 1926".

Respectfully,

R. J. Grant
Director of the Mint.

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February 24, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Kelly:

The Director received your letter of January 29th relative to a conference held in the office of the Coordinator, ninth area, to discuss means of establishing a central purchasing agent for the consolidated procurement of oils for the Federal activities in San Francisco and vicinity. He has asked me to say that he fully approves the plan and will be glad to have you cooperate with the Coordinator in purchasing oils under this plan upon the termination of existing contracts of your Mint.

Respectfully,

W. H. McKnight

Acting Director of the Mint.

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February 25, 1926.

Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.

Sir:

Herewith please find, for amendment as per pencil notations, and return, one copy each of your regular account current, special deposit account current, and schedule of collections, for the month of January. With reference to the regular account current please note that the item of $7,000.00, minor coinage profits transferred to the special deposit account current, has been placed in the "Adjustments" column instead of the "Treasury Deposits" column, because the amount was not placed to the credit of miscellaneous receipts but remains subject to your check in the special deposit account. As regards the special deposit account current the receipt of this $7,000.00 and its deposit in the Treasury constituted a cash transaction in such account and should, therefore, appear on the reverse of the special deposit account current under the heading "Cash Account". On the reverse of the regular account current has been noted an explanation of the amount placed in the adjustments column, as well as further details of the amounts carried in the column "Treasury Deposits". Additional items have also been noted under the heading "Disclosures". As regards the schedule of collections, please note that the item of $7,000.00 has been eliminated therefrom because this form pertains only to collections and deposits affecting the regular account current. In the left hand margin of the schedule of collections the amounts deposited on account of by-products sold could have been left off, since the C/D's correspond in amount with the collections appearing on the right hand side of the form; no change need be made, however, as regards this.

With reference to the bullion account current, comparison with the records of the Treasurer's Office shows <u>credit balance</u> differences as follows: The Treasurer's balance in the recoinage fund is $53,289.44 greater than yours, and his bullion fund balance less than yours by the same amount. This evidently represents the value of gold coin melted for recoinage and transferred from the account "coin for recoinage" to the account "gold coinage bullion", less 96 cents surplus recoinage value of the gold. It is noted from your requests for reimbursement of loss on recoinage, form 474 B, that the transfers were made on January 29, 1926, but your transcripts of transactions reported to the Treasurer contain no notation of same. All transfers between the recoinage fund and the bullion fund should be reported to the Treasurer on the daily transcripts, in order that your accounts as reported to him may be kept in agreement with ours, since a comparison is made in the General Accounting Office as well as in this Office. If the above mentioned

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transfers have not yet been reported to the Treasurer, please report them on your current transcript, with explanation. The differences between the Treasurer's records and ours, for January, will be taken care of by a note of explanation for the information of the General Accounting Office.

Respectfully,

Enclosures.

M. W. O'Reilly

Acting Director of the Mint.

February 20, 1926.

Superintendent,
U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Voucher in the amount of $54.21, representing the amount due Winifred Jane Allen, widow of Frank Allen, deceased, for service as electrician at the San Francisco Mint has this day been forwarded to the General Accounting Office for settlement.

This matter should be handled by you similar to transportation vouchers, etc., paid direct by the General Accounting Office without local cash payment by your institution.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

P.

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The Superintendent,
United States Mint,
San Francisco, Calif.